

Falls Church Environmental Services Council
Thursday, March 16, 2006 – 7:30 p.m.
Community Center – Senior Center
APPROVED Minutes

Present: Sam Beatty, Ellen Gilmore, Ida Peterson, Melissa Teates, Ralph Yatsko, Lindy Hockenberry (City Council liaison), Annette Mills (staff)

Absent: Joe Gerrity, Richard Lawrence,

Guests: John Murphy

- 1) The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ralph Yatsko at 7:40pm.
- 2) Approval of the February 2006 minutes was tabled, since they were unavailable.
- 3) Ralph Yatsko was re-elected Chair and Melissa Teates was re-elected Vice Chair.
- 4) ESC Annual Report
After a final review, the report was approved for presentation to the City Council.

Action: Ralph to present at the March 27th Council Meeting and highlight education, watershed, new task forces, our focus on Council goals, the up-coming events and the need for new ESC members.

- 5) Special Pickup and Yard Waste Set-out Requirements
DES staff (Moe Wadda, Robert Goff, and Annette Mills) discussed the issue and agreed that an ordinance change should be adopted with a system to warn citizens with a door tag; after seven days, the city will pick up the yard-waste if the issue is not resolved. The household would be fined \$100, in addition to the special pickup charge.

Action: Memo to be sent to Brenda Creel to request the ordinance change.

- 6) Pocket Park Proposal
The report from John Murphy was reviewed, and the consensus was that the city needs a comprehensive policy for city paper streets. It was noted that many of the city right-of-ways and paper streets are suitable as “pocket parks” or as walking or bike trail extensions. It was decided that the Open Space committee was the more appropriate group to further investigate and recommend options to the City Council and city staff.

Action: Memo to be sent to Open Space committee chair Barry Buschow requesting that the Open Space committee further investigate the issue of paper streets.
(Melissa to draft)

- 7) FY 2007 Budget
Several budget items were not included in the City Manager’s proposed budget, including the request for a ½ time assistant to the Environmental Program Specialist

and the purchasing of large carts for the curbside recycling program. The household hazardous waste program was deferred to 2007.

Purchasing large carts would have been the first step in enacting the Solid Waste Management Plan and is part of the waste reduction incentive plan. Considering the increasing cost of solid waste removal, ESC members agreed the cost of the carts is reasonable and would be recovered over a few years. A marketing campaign is now the only option for increasing the recycling rate and will need to be explored.

Action: Memo to council on the financial benefits of the carts to be drafted.
(Melissa)

Update/Discussion Items

8) Green Building Policy

There is an opportunity with the Planning Commission's ZORS task force to push for language in the zoning code supporting green building. The ZORS task force has been tasked with reviewing zoning code. Several suggestions were discussed, including the need for LEED-trained city staff, using the Arlington model as an example, working with VPIS to promote green building, brief the City Council on the issues, send comments and information to ZORS, and communicate to ZORS that we would be willing to provide research and information as needed.

Actions: 1) Propose to Brenda Creel that she have several staff go to LEED training. 2) See if we can get time on the agenda at a ZORS meeting. 3) Send City Council information and brief them. (Ralph)

9) 2005-06 Priority Actions

- **Solid Waste Management**
 - Waste Reduction Incentive Plan
 - Household Hazardous Waste Collection

These budget items did not make the 06/07 budget. The ESC needs to determine the next steps.

- **Energy Efficiency**

No changes

- **Watershed Management**

- Watershed Management Plan (Ida)

No changes

- Green Roof Demonstration Project (Joe)

Several ESC members met with Michael Perry, owner of a green roof building firm (Building Logics), to look at the Cherry Hill Park pavilion as a possible site of a demonstration green roof. Mr. Perry said it is a viable site. There is a possibility that the cost can be covered through donations

Action: 1) Memo to Howard Herman and to Brenda Creel to get their thoughts and input.

- Daylighting

The City's daylighting consultant report is complete but has not been made public. More information should be available in the future.

10) Other Business

The continued delay of the "new" tree ordinance report was discussed.

Action: Contact Elizabeth Friel to see when the report will be released.

11) Next meeting confirmed for April 20th

12) Adjournment

Meeting notes submitted by Melissa Teates, 04/16/06